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HOUSE RESOLUTION 199

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ernestine Carpenter of Memphis as an honoree of the Third Annual Heart and Soul Ball.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding citizens who have overcome debilitating illnesses and then resumed their exemplary careers as dedicated professionals and public servants; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ernestine Carpenter, Adjutant Math Instructor at State Tech Institute of Memphis, is most assuredly one such extraordinary citizen who is deserving of our special commendation; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2000, Mrs. Carpenter and five other area residents will be honored at the Third Annual Heart and Soul Ball, which is sponsored by the Southwest Branch of the American Heart Association and which recognizes brave people who are recovering from heart surgery or other heart conditions; and

WHEREAS, one of the finest and most dedicated educators this state has ever produced, Mrs. Ernestine Carpenter has refused to bow down to heart disease, and has fully recovered from her heart surgery in a remarkably brief period of time; and

WHEREAS, prior to her serving in her present position, she served with acumen and alacrity as Director of Education at Creative Life, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, from 1994-96, this exceptional lady enjoyed a meritorious two-year tenure as Principal of Carver High School; and

WHEREAS, as Assistant Principal of Geeter Junior High School, Mrs. Carpenter was instrumental in the implementation of Project War, The Learning Center and Project Advancement Now; and

WHEREAS, during her ten illustrious years as a math teacher at Humes Junior High School, she was selected "Teacher of the Year" by the student body and was honored as "Master Teacher" by her peers; and

WHEREAS, she has also served with distinction as a math teacher at area high schools, Lead Teacher with the Essa Math Program, and as a summer school administrator; and

WHEREAS, a valuable member of several professional and civic organizations, Mrs. Carpenter is a graduate of LeMoyne College and earned her Master of Science degree in Secondary Education from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, loving the Lord and endeavoring to live an exemplary Christian life, this remarkable lady is a devout member of New Life Baptist Church, where she serves faithfully as a Sunday school teacher, Assistant Education Director, Advisor for the Youth Choir and as Director of the Concerned Women's Choir; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being an extremely gifted educator, Mrs. Carpenter has distinguished herself as a vital, intelligent force in the Memphis political arena; and

WHEREAS, she has been invaluable to Representative Barbara Cooper as Chairperson of the District 86 Advisory Board, and has earned the respect of her profession and community as Chairperson of the Mayor's Youth Guidance Commission; she is also an astute member of the Shelby County Democratic Executive Board and Shelby County Democratic Women; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor Mrs. Ernestine Carpenter for her courage and fortitude during her recovery from heart surgery and

applaud her many accomplishments and contributions as an educator and public servant, even as we recognize her as an honoree of the Third Annual Heart and Soul Ball.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.